

Serial #: 09/689,178  
In reply to Office action mailed: 30 December 2003  
page 2 of 13

### **Amendments to the Claims**

Please amend the claims without prejudice, as follows and consider the subsequent remarks/arguments. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

### **Listing of Claims**

1. (Currently amended) A method for choosing components or subsystems for a plurality of generic descriptions in a system design in compliance with one or more system constraints, wherein the generic descriptions represent the components or subsystems in the system design, the method comprising:  
  
choosing a first generic description and a second generic description from the plurality of generic descriptions;  
  
querying a database of objects for finding potential components or subsystems for the first generic description;  
  
receiving a first answer set from the database of objects, where the first answer set is comprised of at least one component or subsystem candidate for the first generic description;  
  
querying the database of objects for finding potential components or subsystems for the second generic description;  
  
receiving a second answer set from the database of objects, where the second answer set is comprised of at least one component or subsystem candidate for the second generic description;

Serial #: 09/689,178

In reply to Office action mailed: 30 December 2003

page 3 of 13

testing ~~at least one of the~~ one or more combinations of ~~the~~ component or subsystem candidates from the first and second answer sets against one or more predefined system constraints; and

determining at least one solution set, where each solution set is one of the combinations of ~~the~~ component or subsystem candidates which best complies with the one or more predefined system constraints.

2. (Currently amended) The method for choosing components or subsystems for a plurality of generic descriptions in a system design[, ] from claim 1, wherein the generic descriptions are blocks of a block diagram.
3. (Currently amended) The method for choosing components or subsystems for a plurality of generic descriptions in a system design [, ] from claim 1, wherein at least one of the one or more predefined system constraints depends on a ~~the~~ cumulative contribution of each of the component or subsystem candidates ~~in the combination~~.
4. (Currently amended) A method for verifying whether components or subsystems for a plurality of generic descriptions in a system comply with one or more system constraints, wherein the generic descriptions represent the components or subsystems of the system, the method comprising:

choosing a first generic description and a second generic description from the plurality of generic descriptions;

querying a database of objects for finding potential components or subsystems for the first generic description;

receiving a first answer set from the database of objects, where the first answer set

Serial #: 09/689,178

In reply to Office action mailed: 30 December 2003

page 4 of 13

is comprised of at least one component or subsystem candidate for the first generic description;

assigning a first candidate object from the first answer set to the first generic description;

querying the database of objects for finding potential components or subsystems for the second generic description;

receiving a second answer set from the database of objects, where the second answer set is comprised of at least one component or subsystem candidate for the second generic description;

assigning a second candidate object from the second answer set to the second generic description; and

testing whether the first and second candidate objects comply with ~~at least one~~ one or more predefined system ~~constraints~~ constraint.

5. (Currently amended) The method for verifying ~~choosing components or subsystems~~ ~~for a plurality of generic descriptions in a system design~~, from claim 4, wherein the generic descriptions are blocks of a block diagram.
6. (Currently amended) The method for verifying ~~choosing components or subsystems~~ ~~for a plurality of generic descriptions in a system design~~, from claim 4, wherein at least one of the one or more predefined system constraints depends on ~~the~~ a cumulative contribution of each of the ~~components or subsystems~~ component or subsystem candidates in the combination.